

**Texas Council of International Studies (TCIS)  
Board Meeting  
November 19, 2019  
Hyatt Regency Riverwalk  
San Antonio, Texas**

**Presiding**

Karen Phillips

**Members Present**

Dr. Dolph Briscoe  
Ms. Linda Buie  
Ms. Karen Phillips  
Mr. Walter Sorensen  
Dr. Bill Thomas

**Legal Counsel Present**

Mr. Ben Barlow  
Mr. Judd Pritchard

**Staff Members Present**

Ms. Margaret Davis, Chief Executive Officer  
Dr. Courtney Gober, Assistant Superintendent of San Antonio IB Schools  
Ms. D'Les Herron, IB Leadership Instructional Senior Advisor  
Ms. Penny Tschirhart, Assistant Director for IB Schools  
Ms. Gina Vera, Special Projects Coordinator  
Mr. Miguel Elizondo, Principal of Burbank High School  
Mr. Ralf Halderman, Principal of Jefferson High School  
Dr. Carol Velazquez, Principal of Harris High School  
Ms. Jennifer Emerson, Principal of Briscoe Elementary School  
Ms. Linda Rios-Garcia, Principal of Huppertz Elementary School  
Ms. Karen Rose, Principal of Woodlawn Academy  
Ms. Martha Martinez-Silva, Principal of Woodlawn Hills Elementary School  
Tambrey Ozuna, Principal of Fenwick Academy  
Manuel Ramirez  
Rogelio Zarrom

**Meeting Called to Order**

- Board President, Karen Phillips, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and established a quorum. Phillips established the quorum with a roll call.

## **Recognitions**

Karen Phillips introduced and recognized the San Antonio ISD and TCIS partnership leaders

- Dr. Courtney Gober, Assistant Superintendent for IB
- D’Les Herron, SAISD Senior Instructional Advisor
- Gina Vera, SAISD Special Projects Coordinator

Karen Phillips recognized the school staff present and thanked them for their presence at the previous meeting. She commended Dr. Courtney Gober for his precision with all the documents. She thanked the legal counsel and thanked the Board. She gave her appreciation to Margaret Davis for her work with the initiative.

Margaret Davis shared her appreciation for working with the educators in the partnership and commended their dedication to the students. She asked the Board to commend the educators.

## **Information and Discussion Items**

- Penny Tschairhart presented an overview of IB fidelity in TCIS schools
  - Authorized programmes
  - Culture shift; climate change
  - Experiential learning
  - Candidate schools
  - IB Programme growth and projection
  - Serving 6017 students
    - DP—172 students
    - MYP—4750 students
    - PYP—2091 students
  - Focus
    - Programme sustainability
    - Approaches to learning
    - Consistent alignment with state standards
    - Improve DP exam marks
- Campus Updates
  - Mr. Miguel Elizondo, Principal of Burbank High School
    - Enrollment—1247 students
      - 98% Hispanic
      - 13% LEP
      - 89% Economically Disadvantaged
      - 13% Special Education
      - 13/14% Gifted/Talented
    - Career and Technical classes
    - Academics
      - IB exam scores
      - EOC Scores
    - Goal—60% for all assessments
    - Academic Focus Areas
      - English Language Arts/Math—consultant working with teams
      - Diploma Programme—teacher program support
      - Promise to Graduate Program—hired additional counselor to support at-risk students

- FLEX Schedule with tutoring sessions during the school day
- Saturday School to support struggling students
- Master Teacher Program to support Tier 2 students
- Friday Night Lights
- Campus Culture and Celebrations
- 1882 additions—Promise to Graduate, technology, special boards for science, staffing
- Mr. Ralf Halderman—Principal of Jefferson High School
  - Rich tradition and history
  - Prominent alumni group
  - Comprehensive high school
  - Academics
    - TEA Distinctions: English, Social Studies, and Academic Growth
  - Academic Areas of Focus
    - College and Career Readiness
    - TELPAS
    - Dual Credit
    - End of course Meets/Masters level
    - MYP Unit Planner Design
    - Special Education
  - Campus Culture and Celebrations
    - National AVID demonstration school
    - IB MYP and DP Campus Authorization
    - AVID Transformation Tuesday
    - New Teacher Camps Mentoring Program
    - Monthly events
    - Teacher Appreciation
    - Mustang Good News
    - Sock-Tober
    - Open House
    - Family Nights
    - IB De-stressing Nights
    - Various Ceremonies
    - Good news cards
    - Beautification projects
  - Major Achievements of Extra-Curricular
    - Band—Region 29 UIL Marching Competition
    - Choir
    - JROTC
  - 1992 funds
    - Associate principal
    - 6.5 teachers
    - Technology
    - Building improvements
  - AVID
    - College preparation support

- Dr. Carol Velazquez, Principal of Harris Middle School
  - History—established 1923
  - IB MYP—established June 2018
  - Demographics
    - 805 students
    - English Language Learners—27%
    - SE—14%
    - G/T 13%
    - Economically Disadvantaged—91%
  - Initiatives
    - Choice camps
    - IB MYP
    - Verizon Innovative Learning campus
    - 1 to 1 IPADS
    - Campus-Wide Champs and Restorative Practices
    - PBIS—Positive behavior Intervention Supports
  - Programs
    - AVID
    - LAVA—leadership for visual art
    - STEM (Science
    - STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math)
    - GEC
    - ACE
  - Curriculum Model
    - IB MYP Programme
    - AVID/AVID Excel
  - Electives
    - High school credit courses
    - Performing Arts
    - Design
    - Robotics
    - Theater Tech
    - PE/Athletics
  - Extracurricular Activities
    - National Junior Honor Society
    - Football
    - UIL
    - Student council
    - Peer Mediators
    - Photography
  - Extended Learning Opportunities
    - Extended tutoring
    - Saturday school
    - YMCA challenge after school
  - Focus
    - Pulling the String from the Top
    - Differentiation for students
    - Literacy Focus—Common reading and writing strategies

- 7 Steps to a Language Rich environment
  - AVID Excel
  - Student Goal Setting and Data Tracking
- Campus Culture and Celebrations
  - Innovation grant winners
  - Fine Arts Growth
  - Art Project in collaboration with SMART Gallery at the Pearl
  - Football Zone Champs
  - Award-Winning Band
- Dr. Tambrey Ozuna, Principal, Fenwick Academy
  - History
    - Establish 1935
    - Named after SA Express News Writer and women's Right Advocate—Martin b. Fenwick
  - Demographics
    - 482 students
    - 98% Hispanic
    - 97% ECD
    - 68% At Risk
    - 34% English Language Learners
  - Initiatives
    - 201702918 expanded to an academy model
    - In-district charter
    - IB Candidate School PYP (Year 1) and MYP (Year 2)
    - Fine Arts Focus
    - Dual Language Program
  - Academics
    - Curriculum
      - ❖ IB PYP and MYP
      - ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Exhibition
      - ❖ 8<sup>th</sup> Grade MYP Community Project
    - Special Offerings
      - ❖ Fine Arts
      - ❖ Foreign Language: Spanish, French
      - ❖ Design, Teen Leadership
      - ❖ Dual Language, ESL
      - ❖ GEC (Special education), ACE, Speech, Dyslexia
      - ❖ Extracurricular Activities
      - ❖ Athletics: Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Soccer, Volleyball
      - ❖ Groups/Clubs: Student Council, Chess, Art, Drama, Choir, Drums, Running, Safety Patrols, PALS
  - Academic Areas of Focus
    - Master teachers
    - Balanced literacy
    - Lotta Lara/Dictado (Bilingual Classrooms)
    - Instructional coach
    - Instructional support

- 7 steps for Language Enrichment Professional Development
  - Writing Across the Curriculum
  - Student Journals
  - Campus Writing Protocol
  - Student Projects and portfolios
  - Student data trackers
  - Campus staff Google Drive
- Campus Culture and Celebrations
  - 1992 Start-Up Grant
  - Technology: one to one technology, interactive boards, flexible furniture
  - IB Global Conference
- Family Engagement
  - IB Family Engagement nights
  - Student performande
  - Athletics
  - Family events
  - PTA
  - Parent principal coffees
  - Field experiences
  - SOAR—students making positive choices
- Mrs. Karen Rose, Principal of Woodlawn Academy
  - History—established in 1924
  - K-8 Academy
  - PYP and MYP Autori
  - Demograghics
    - Enrollment 614
    - ECD 85.9%
    - At risk 67.4%
    - ELL 21.1%
  - Initiatives and Highlights
    - Choice school
    - In-district charter
  - IB Parent University
  - 7 Master Teachers
  - 4 Intervention Lead Teachers
  - 4 Teachers with Empatico Global Movement
  - Academics
    - IB Primary and Middle Years Program
    - Special Offerings
      - ❖ G/T
      - ❖ LAVA
      - ❖ Robotics
      - ❖ Design
      - ❖ Foreign Language
      - ❖ Art

- ❖ Band
- ❖ Choir Music
- ❖ Dance
- ❖ Special Education
- ❖ GEC
- ❖ ACE
- ❖ Dyslexia services
- Extracurricular Activities
  - ❖ Football
  - ❖ Cross country
  - ❖ Basketball
  - ❖ Soccer
  - ❖ Volleyball
  - ❖ Art Club
  - ❖ Run Club
  - ❖ Photography Club
  - ❖ UIL
  - ❖ Book Club
  - ❖ Spanish Spelling Bee
  - ❖ Robotics
- Academic Areas of Focus
  - ❖ English Language Arts and Reading
  - ❖ Vertical alignment
  - ❖ Campus writing process
  - ❖ Transdisciplinary authentic writing
  - ❖ One published piece a month
  - ❖ Writing journals and portfolios
  - ❖ Balanced literacy
  - ❖ Close reading
  - ❖ Lott Lara and Dictado
  - ❖ 7 Steps to Language Rich Interactive Classrooms
- Campus Culture and Celebrations
  - ❖ Only PYP and MYP authorized IB school
  - ❖ Recipient of \$800,000 Charter start-up Grant
    - 1 to 1 technology
    - Smartboards
    - IB Global Conference
    - PYP Exhibition
- MYP Community Project Showcases
- Night Showcases
- Monthly Learner Profile Student Nominations
- Staff World Leader is Eagle Bucks and Vouchers
- Community Partnerships
  - ❖ Youth Literacy
  - ❖ HEB
  - ❖ San Antonio Food Bank
  - ❖ Assistance League of San Antonio

❖ DECO

- Ms. Linda Rios-Garcia, Principal of Huppertz Elementary School
  - History
    - Dedicated in 1959
    - 2017—received 5 out of 6 TEA Distinctions
    - 2017—received 6 out of 6 Distinctions
    - Prior years--recognized
  - Current Year
    - 2019 Improvement Required (Year 1)
    - New leadership
    - New staff (more than half)
  - Demographics
    - PK/Head Start—5<sup>th</sup> grade
    - 325 students
    - 95% economically disadvantaged
  - Initiatives
    - Choice school
    - In-district charter
    - IB Candidate School (Year 2)
  - Programs
    - GEC
    - PPCD
    - Gifted/Talented
  - Academics
    - Curriculum Model
      - ❖ IB PYP Programme Model
      - ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Exhibition
      - ❖ AVID-WICOR (Marking the Text, Socratic Seminars)
  - Specials
    - Art
    - Music
    - Spanish
    - PE
  - Extracurricular Activities
    - Student Council
    - UIL
    - Choir
    - Patrols
    - Chess
    - Recycling
  - Extended Learning Opportunities
    - After school
    - Saturday tutoring
  - Academic areas of Focus
    - ELAR
      - ❖ Texas Lesson Study with Region 20



❖ Saxon Phonics

- Math
  - AES (Associates of Educational Success) Partnership
  - Number Talks
- ELAR and Math
  - Data Collaboration
  - Lesson Plan Feedback and Coaching Support
  - SOAR Training Student Opportunities for Academic Results
- Special Education
  - Co-teach model
  - Hyper-monitoring student growth
- Campus Culture and Celebrations
  - 1882 start-up grant
  - 1 to 1 technology
  - Smartboards
  - Flexible seating
  - Playgrounds
  - San Antonio School Parks Grant
  - Campus Mural
  - Texas Gateway Published Teachers
  - Cougar Plush Club
  - Vibrant Entrance
- Ms. Martha Martinez-Silva, Principal of Woodlawn Hills Elementary School
  - Enrollment
    - 481 students
    - Attendance—95.70%
    - TEA Rating—65/D
  - Campus Successes
    - PYP Authorization, Spring 2020
    - \$800,000 charter start-up grant
    - Dual-language program
    - Cohort Grades: 1
  - Campus Focus
    - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts and Reading
    - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Special Populations—SPED in reading and math
    - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Math and Science
    - Instructional specialists targeted support
  - Campus Strategies
    - Monitoring teacher lesson planning
    - Teachers submit weekly lesson plans
    - PLC protocol
    - Effective data collection
  - Academic Model
    - International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (PYP)
    - Inquiry-Based Learning
    - Social Emotional Learning

- Special Populations
    - Potential Challenges and Mitigation Strategy
  - Data and Continuous Improvement
  - School Community Communications
    - Staff Communication
      - Faculty meetings
      - Weekly memos
      - Administrative “open door” policy
    - Community communication
      - Bi-weekly parent meetings
      - Monthly calendars
      - Parent conferences
- Ms. Jennifer Emerson, Principal of Andrew Briscoe Elementary School
  - Campus Information
    - Current Enrollment—444
    - Attendance—95.44%
    - TEA Rating—79/C
  - Campus Successes
    - Most improved elementary school in SAISD: F to C
    - New principal with focus on instructional alignment
    - TEA Distinction: Academic Growth
    - Care Bear Assembly
    - Art focus partnerships
    - Student Growth
  - Campus Focus
    - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts and Reading
    - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Math
    - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science
    - Instructional specialists targeted support
  - Campus Strategies
    - Monitoring teacher lesson planning
    - Teachers submit weekly lesson plans
    - PLC protocol
    - Effective data collection
  - Academic Model
    - Primary Years Programme (PYP)
      - ❖ Choose
      - ❖ Act
      - ❖ Reflect
    - Fine Arts
    - World Languages
  - Student Service Opportunities
    - Pantry Packers
    - Yogi Bear yoga classes
    - Eliminating food waste
  - Social Emotional Learning
  - Special Populations

- School Community Communications
  - Staff communication
  - Parent communication
    - ❖ Emails
    - ❖ Monthly calendars
    - ❖ Participation in campus events
- School Culture and Climate
  - Collaboration with Community Partners
    - ❖ S.M.A.R.T.
    - ❖ Blue Star Contemporary
    - ❖ Boys and Girls Clubs
    - ❖ First Baptist Church
  - Weekly Guidance Lessons
  - Grandparents' Day
  - Communities-in-Schools
  - Decreasing discipline referrals

Ms. Karen Phillips thanked the schools for their comprehensive presentations and commended them for their hard work.

The meeting was then adjourned.